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To: Commissioner for Patents Page 1 of 5

2006-05-16 18:35:06 (GMT)

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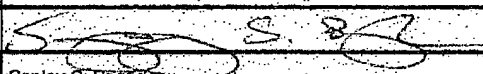
<b>LEVINE BAGADE LLP</b>			
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<b>FAX</b>			
To:	Commissioner for Patents	From:	Sanjay S. Bagade
Fax:	(571) 273-8300	Pages:	5 (including cover page)
Phone:		Date:	May 16, 2006
<p>Comments: <b>OFFICIAL FILING – SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION</b></p> <p><b>Application No.:</b> 10/798,465  <b>Filing Date:</b> March 11, 2004  <b>Title:</b> SURGICAL FASTENER  <b>Inventor(s):</b> Michael D. LAUFER et al.  <b>Examiner:</b> G. Dawson  <b>Group Art Unit:</b> 3731  <b>Attorney Docket No.:</b> LAUFNZ00200</p> <p>Papers attached:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transmittal – 1 page</li> <li>2. Supplemental Response to Non-Final Office Action – 3 pages</li> </ol>			

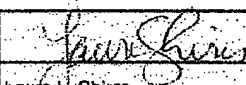
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PTO/SB/21 (08-04)  
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/796,465	<b>RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER MAY 16 2006</b>
	Filing Date	March 11, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Michael D. LAUFER	
	Art Unit	3731	
	Examiner Name	G. Dawson	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number	LAUFNZ00200

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Remarks</div>	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1. Fax Cover Sheet - 1 page

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Levine Bagada LLP (Customer No. 40518)		
Signature			
Printed name	Sanjay S. Bagada		
Date	May 16, 2006	Reg. No.	42,280

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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Signature			
Typed or printed name	Laura L. Shires	Date	May 16, 2006

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Signature: 

(Laura Shires)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/798,465  
Confirmation No.: 6106  
Filing Date: March 11, 2004  
Inventor(s): Michael D. LAUFER et al.  
Title: SURGICAL FASTENER  
Examiner: G. Dawson  
Group Art Unit: 3731

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## SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Incomplete Response mailed May 5, 2006 for which a response is due June 6, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.